Cockermouth
Urban District Council.

BRITISH MEDICAL
FIDLER
ASSOCIATION

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

JOHN PENNY, D.Sc., M.B., F.R.S.E.

For the Year 1908.

Together with the Summary of Work of the

INSPECTOR.

COCKERMOUTH:
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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COCKERMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

In accordance with Section iii, of the Order of the Local Government Board, dated March 23rd., 1901, regulating the duties of Medical Officers of Health, I have the honour to submit my annual report, for the year 1908. The report is primarily intended for the information of the Local Government Board and the County Council ; but it is also of service to you and to those whose public health interests are committed to your charge.

Should this report reach others in the district, as I hope it may ; who are not on the Urban Council I may remind them that they can individually assist in improving the sanitary condition of the district, by giving special attention to their surroundings, seeing that their drains and water supply are in a satisfactory condition, and by giving notice to the Inspector or myself of the presence of any condition, which may prejudicially affect health, Clergymen, Nurses and District Visitors have many opportunities of saying a word in season, to those, to whom they minister, as to the necessity for cleanliness, want of fresh air in their homes, the proper feeding and rearing of Children, etc.; what is wanted now is the education of the people, and especially of the young on all matters pertaining to the maintenance of health and the prolongation of life.

The following is a statistical summary of the birth and death rates for the year, compared with the rates for England and Wales, during the same period.

Rates calculated per 1000 of population :—

	For 1908	England & Wales For 1908	County of Cumberland for 1908
Birth-rate	24·2	26·5	26·04
Corrected Death-rate	17·0	14.7	14.9
Infantile Mortality	160	121	126
Zymotic Death-rate	1·27	1·29	·95
Phthisis	1·1		1·01

The Report contains details of the administration of the Factory and Workshops Acts, required by the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

In conclusion I wish to express my indebtedness to the Inspector, for supplying me with certain details and his report and to record my thanks to the Clerk and every member of the Council for their invariable courtesy towards me and help during the year.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN PENNY.

REPORT.

Population

It will be remembered that the census of the population taken in 1901, was 5355 and the figures 5410 have been adopted in preparing the vital statistics for the year under review.

The number of inhabited houses was found to be 1235, which gives an average number of persons per house at 4·3, at the 1901 census it was 4·1.

Area

The area of the district in statute acres (exclusive of area covered by water) is 2389·144.

The density of the population of the town is about 2·26 per acre.

Geology

The geological formation of the larger portion of the district is gravel, with Skiddaw slate and limestone on the boundary, covered in parts with glacial drifts, boulder clay, and waterborne sediment, sand and gravel.

Births

During the year 131 births were registered in the district.

Births in the town—Males, 51 ; Females, 70 ; Total 121. Births in the Workhouse—Males, 2 ; Females 8, Total 10. Of these 131 births, 20 were illegitimate (4 males and 16 females, including 1 male and 8 females in the Workhouse.) There were 19 births more than in the year 1907.

Birth-rate

The birth-rate for the year is equal to 24·2 per 1000, that for the last year was 21·97. The average for the ten years 1898-1907, was 23·2.

The percentage of illegitimate to total births is 15·26 or 5·1 per cent. higher than for 1907.

Deaths

The total number of deaths registered was 135.

Town Deaths

Town deaths—Males 48 ; Females 39 ; Total 87.

Workhouse deaths—Males 35 ; Females 13 ; Total 48.

In order to obtain the correct death rate for the town, the deaths of three non-residents must be subtracted from the total of 87, and the death of eight inhabitants of Cockermouth must be added, viz., seven —five males and two females, who died in the Cockermouth Workhouse, and one female, who died in the Cottage Hospital, Maryport.

Death-rate

The uncorrected death-rate is equal to 24·94 per 1000, but the true or corrected death rate is equal to 17·0 per 1000. The rate for last year was 16·0 per 1000. This figure would have been considerably lower but for the epidemic of whooping cough, which invaded the town and necessitated the closing of the schools.

The death-rate for England and Wales, for 1908, was 14·7 per 1000.

The following table gives the age at death :—

Year	At all ages	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-65	Over 65
1908	92	21	5	1	3	29	33
1907	86	11	11	2	2	25	35
1906	78	17	6	3	3	25	24
1905	90	15	5	0	5	33	32
1904	97	23	7	4	8	27	28

The above figures show an increase of 10 amongst the deaths under one year; one under twenty-five ; four under sixty-five ; and a decrease of six under five; one under fifteen ; and two over sixty-five.

During the year, three inquests were held, one an infant overlain and the other two, suicides.

Cancer proved fatal in seven cases, with a rate of 1·29 per 1000, as against ·96 per 1000 in the preceeding year.

Tuberculosis

Phthisis— There were six deaths registered as being due to Phthisis. Besides the above, one death was assigned to another form of tubercular disease. The following table gives the age at death.

Year	At all ages	Under 1 year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-65	Over 65
1902	6	0	0	0	3	2	1
1903	6	0	0	0	1	5	0
1904	5	0	1	0	2	2	0
1905	7	0	0	0	2	5	0
1906	6	0	0	1	3	2	0
1907	8	1	1	0	1	5	0
1908	6	0	0	0	0	6	0

The death-rate from Consumption is equal to 1.10

per 1000 of the population. That for 1907 was 1·48 per 1000.

The Local Government Board has now issued regulations necessitating the Poor-law Medical Officers to report all cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis to the Medical Officers of Health for the District. This is a step in the right direction, but I am inclined to think that the Government should include this disease among those which are compulsory notifiable, with this proviso ; that cases should be dealt with on similar lines to that in force in Sheffield.

This is the opinion of the Metropolitan Branch of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health, who have unanimously passed a resolution to the effect that they consider it desirable that in London tuberculosis of the lungs should be compulsory notifiable.

The above resolution was the outcome of a paper read by Dr. Louis Parkes, in which he pointed out that the system of voluntary notification had been a comparative failure, due to the professional relations subsisting between a medical man and his patient. There was naturally a prejudice in the minds of most patients ; no matter what their social standing, against consenting to a divulgence of a knowledge of their condition to anyone outside their own immediate circle. If medical men were bound by law to notify such cases it would be unnecessary to obtain the patient's consent. In support of his contention for compulsory notification, Dr. Parkes showed how well the system had worked in Sheffield, where it had been in force since November, 1903, which powers were obtained by Act of Parliament. Here every Medical man was bound to notify each case of phthisis occurring in his practice in the same way that he notified cases of any other infectious disease. If he did not wish his patient visited by the Medical Officer of Health or one of his staff, he filled up a form to that effect, which he transmitted with the certificate, and no such visit was made. In these cases it is expected that the medical attendant, will himself instruct the patient to observe the necessary precautions to prevent the spread of the disease to other persons. The mere fact of notification confers no powers upon the Medical Officer of Health, or his staff, which

they do not possess under existing statutory enactments. Consequently there is no compulsion on consumptive patients to submit to isolation at home, or to removal to hospital, or to give up their occupations, or to undergo any supervision or control. The only extra power given under the Sheffield Corporation Act 1903, was that of enabling the Medical Officer of Health to enforce the disinfection and cleansing of the premises, that had been in the occupation of a consumptive and to require the removal for disinfection of any bedding, clothing or other article, which had been exposed to the infection of tubercle—No provisions contained in any local Act of Parliament relating to Infectious disease applied to tuberculosis of the lungs, or to any proceedings relating thereto—In this way the measures adopted by the sanitary authority after the receipt of the notification were deprived of any possibility of being harsh or creating any hardship for poor consumptives, which they were not at present called upon to bear.

The whole object of compulsory notification in Sheffield, as it would be elsewhere when adopted on similar lines, was to educate in methods of hygiene, by persuasion and advice persons who were subjects of a communicable disease, but who through ignorance or carelessness, were liable to be the means of spreading the disease to others, and not to hedge them about by disabilities, which would have the effect of cutting them off from social intercourse—On such lines as these, there was no reason to expect any opposition from the Medical profession or the public.

Infantile Mortality

There were twenty-one deaths among infants under one year. This shows an increase of ten on last year's total. The average number of deaths for the ten years 1898-1907, was 15. The infantile mortality rate for the year is equal to 160 per 1000 births. The rate for last year was 93·2 per 1000 births.

The rates for the past five years are as follows :—

1908	1907	1906	1905	1904
160	93·2	118·8	142·2	194.9

Table V. shows the causes of death among infants.

Deaths from the common infectious disease,

whooping cough accounted for three, and diarrhocal diseases one. Pneumonia claimed five and two were assigned to Bronchitis.

One of the most important factors in the destruction of these infants, is ignorance and carelessness on the part of the mothers, leading to improper feeding, and undue exposure of the offspring particularly when suffering from the common zymotic diseases such as whooping cough, measles, &c.

It has not been thought necessary to adopt the Notification of Birth's Act.

Senile Death-rate

Of the ninety-two deaths registered, no fewer than thirty-three had attained the age of sixty-five years and upwards, which gives a senile rate of 35·86 per cent of the total deaths, against 40·7 for 1907.

Zymotic Death-rate

The zymotic death-rate is calculated from the number of deaths due to the seven principal zymotic diseases. The following table gives them and the deaths recorded from each :—

Smallpox		...	0
Measles		...	0
Whooping Cough		...	5
Diphtheria		...	1
Fevers	Typhus	...	0
	Enteric	...	0
	Continued	...	0
Diarrhoea		...	1
			7

The Zymotic death-rate for the year, is equal to 1·29 per 1000, compared with 2·24 per 1000 in 1907. The rate for England and Wales for 1908, was 1·29 per 1000.

Smallpox

There were no cases, and consequently no deaths.

The Joint Smallpox Hospital Committee, ought to undertake the responsibility in the provision of a suitable hospital for these cases in a more serious light, and make some attempt in getting the building erected.

Notifiable Zymotic Diseases

Under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, nine cases of infectious diseases were notified, with the exception of last year, when eight cases were notified, this is the lowest total recorded for the past seven years.

The following table shows the notifications during each month of 1908 :—

MONTHLY NOTIFICATIONS.

1908	Smallpox	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Scarlet Fever	Erysipelas	Totals
January ..	..	..	..	..	..	...	..
February ..		1		...	...	..	1
March ...	...	.	..	..	...	...	...
April ..	...	..	..	..	..	...	..
May ..	..	..	...	...	..	1	1
June ..	...	...	..	...	..	..	..
July ..	...	1		..	..	..	1
August ...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
September ..	...	..	3	..	.	...	3
October ..	..	..	...	...	..	...	...
November ...	..	...	1	..	..	1	2
December ..	...	..	..	1	..	...	1
	...	2	4	1	..	2	9

From these diseases there were two deaths, one a female child, aged 23 months, from Diphtheria and the other a female, aged 23 years, from Puerperal Fever.

The following table shows the number of notifications for the past seven years :—

Diseases	1908	1807	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	2	0	5	4	3	3	0
Enteric Fever	4	1	1	1	3	2	0
Puerperal Fever	1	0	5	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	6	1	7	1	5	24
Erysipelas	2	1	1	6	7	3	2
Totals ...	9	8	13	18	14	16	26

Diphtheria

In February a fatal case of laryngeal diphtheria in a child aged twenty-three months, occurred at Christ Church Terrace,—illness commenced on 1st Feb., was visited for the first time on the evening of the 3rd Feb. and died in the early hours of the morning of the 4th Feb On inspection of the premises, two cracked water closet pans were all that could be found in an insanitary condition.

The second case notified, was that of a widow aged 38, residing at 15 Wordsworth Terrace, on 12th July and being of a mild type, soon became convalescent. Nothing insanitary was noticed to generate the disease. The drains in the yard are defective of flush, probably on account of deficiency of fall.

Since these cases, your Council have made provision for the free bacteriological examinations of such cases and free provision of the anti-diphtheritic serum.

Enteric Fever

Three members of one family, residing in Derwent Street, were notified on 26 September as suffering from Enteric Fever, aged respectively 10 6/12; 13 11/12; and 14 11/12 years. On visiting the premises the the house was one of the so called type "back-to-back" and therefore devoid of through ventilation. It contained one kitchen, one bedroom with attic above. The water closet and connections were found to be defective and the apparent cause was attributed to an effluvium nuisance of sewer gas proceeding therefrom. These defects were consequently rectified.

On the 16th Nov. a notification was received that a nurse aged 45 years, who had come two days before from Haddington to nurse a patient, at Cockermouth Castle, was suffering from Enteric Fever. Examination of the blood by Widal's Test confirmed the diagnosis. As there was nothing of an insanitary nature about this old historic building the disease must have been contracted before her arrival. The sufferer was in London on 24th Oct. and partook of oysters in an hotel, in Compton Street. There being no accommodation for the treatment of this case. I was consulted by the private medical attendant and as the district have not provided any hospital, for the treatment of infectious disease, recommended them to try and get the Medical Officer of Health, for the Borough of Workington, to admit her

into the fever hospital at Ellerbeck, which he kindly acceded to, and the case made a satisfactory recovery. In my report for last year, your attention was called to the want of an Infectious Diseases Hospital for your district.

Puerperal Fever

After reporting to your Council that a death had been registered on 5th November (on the certificate of death of the medical practitioner who was in attendance on the case,) from Puerperal Septicæmia of an adult female, aged 23 years, residing in South Street. This case was subsequently notified in December.

On personal inspection of the premises nothing of an insanitary nature was observed. The house was thoroughly disinfected.

Erysipelas

At 66 St. Helen's Street, an adult female was visited for an acute attack of facial erysipelas, which originated from a chill contracted on the 4th of May, similarly a woman aged 72, residing at the Black Lion yard on the 13th of Nov. was visited for an acute attack of erysipelas of the head and face, the result of a cold.

Scarlet fever

The outstanding feature of the year under consideration, is the total absence of this disease in your district.

Whooping Cough

This assumed an epidemic form during the later months of the year and the Infants' Department of the Fairfield Council School, was ordered to be closed from the 8th to the 31st of October, both dates inclusive, This disease accounted for five deaths of children under five years of age

Chicken Pox

During the months, July to December, there were several cases of this disease, affecting the children in the town.

Measles

After the heavy epidemic of this disease in 1907, I did not hear of a single case, and it is probable the town will remain free for another two or three years. No deaths were registered.

Influenza

Influenza accounted for one death.

Public Elementary Schools :— Sanitary Conditions; &c.

A general inspection of the school premises in the district was made during the year.

The medical inspection of the school children, has been undertaken by the County Council Authorities.

Common Lodging Houses

Two common lodging houses are registered in the district, (one in Sullart Street, the other in Kirkgate,) which have been frequently inspected by the Inspector and myself. Both are old buildings and far from what might be considered model lodging houses. Several defects were found in the Sullart Street lodging house, and which have since been remedied. As regards cleanliness, they generally complied with the bye-laws.

Offensive Trades

In your Urban District there are two tallow chandlers, one gut scraper, and four fried fish shops.

During the year, close observations have been kept on Mr. Peter Fletcher's premises, situated in a field abutting on Windmill lane, where he carried on the process of removing the hides from dead carcases, and two convictions were recorded against him, by the Court of Summary Jurisdiction, under "The Dog's Act ",

Bakehouses

There are fifteen bakehouses in the town, eight of which are not registered. Those registered were always found clean and regularly lime-washed on inspection. All use the Crummock water supply.

Slaughter Houses

There are five public slaughter-houses in Market Street, but only two are utilised by the butchers. Five slaughter-houses belonging to private individuals exist in the district, which have been frequently inspected and on the whole kept in a cleanly condition. One of these, in my opinion is far from suitable as regards its structure and situation. Two sides are constructed of wood, the third, the wall of the dwelling house, from which the kitchen door enters direct into the slaughter-house. The fourth stone wall, is that of the adjoining premises. This is covered in by a corrugated sheet-iron roof. The drainage from the hungering shed, runs along the ground towards the river.

Cowsheds Dairies Milk-shops

Milk supply—There are ten cow-keepers and sixteen milk-sellers registered in the district.

The importance of having a pure milk supply, is becoming more and more recognised, both by sanitary authorities and private consumers. There are two main lines in which improvement may be anticipated.—(*a*) The conditions under which the cows are kept and

milked, as bearing on the cleanliness of the milk.—(*b*) The condition of the cows themselves as regards tuberculosis. The Council of this town has for several years past, given the first of these considerable attention, and during the year under review have appointed on my report, a veterinary surgeon to make quarterly inspections and reports on all animals and byres of the cow-keepers in the Urban district and also the outside dairy farms, which supply the town.

A point that apparently receives too little attention from the cow-keepers, is the proper grooming of the cows, the cleansing of the udders, and the hands of the milkers. In the third interim report of the Royal Commission, on Human and Bovine Tuberculosis, it has been clearly demonstrated. "That in the case of cows obviously suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs or alimentary canal, the excrement, from the point of view of accidental tuberculous contamination of the milk, is much more dangerous than the matter discharged from the mouth and nostrils." "Tuberculous cows without disease of the udder may excrete tubercle bacilli by the mammary gland and also cause tuberculous contamination of the milk, by the fæcal matter, which so frequently is introduced in ordinary milking."

Although these inspections are a step in the right direction, yet it seemed probable that after the second interim report of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis, that a more thorough inspection, especially of the cows was required. This report, like the third, just published is of extreme interest to all engaged in safeguarding the Public Health. It will be remembered that at the International Congress on Tuberculosis, held in London in 1901, Prof. Koch stated, that as the result of certain investigations made by him, he believed that human and bovine bacilli are different in kind, and the statement was made that the likelihood of human beings becoming infected to any serious degree with bacilli of bovine origin, was so slight that it might be regarded as of little practical moment. Naturally the opinion of so eminent a Bacteriologist, was widely used by those interested in the matter financially, for their own ends. The report of the Royal Commission has disproved the opinion of Prof. Koch, and it is hoped will put an end to this erroneous theory, which has had such

a baneful influence upon the interests of public health. The Commissioners state :—" There can be no doubt that, in a certain number of cases the tuberculosis occurring in the human subject, especially in children, is the direct result of the introduction into the human body of the bacilli of bovine tuberculosis ; and there can also be no doubt that, in the majority at least of these cases, the bacilli is introduced through cow's milk. Cow's milk is clearly a cause of tnberculosis, and of fatal tuberculosis in man." This opinion is amply proved by numerous experiments carried out by the Commission. They further state :—" A very considerable amount of disease and loss of life, especially among the young, must be attributed to the consumption of cow's milk. containing tubercle bacilli." Again, " The presence of tubercle bacilli in cow's milk can be detected, though with difficulty, if the proper means be adopted, and such milk should never be used for food. There is far less difficulty in recognising clinically that a cow is suffering from tuberculosis, in which case she may be yielding tuberculous milk. The milk coming from such a cow ought not to form part of human food, and indeed ought not to be used as food at all. Our results clearly point to the necessity of measures more stringent than those at present enforced, being taken to prevent the sale or consumption of such milk." Such plain speaking on the part of a Commission, composed of such eminent scientific men as this one, must surely result in the Government taking the necessary steps to enable Sanitary Authorities to see that milk infected with tubercle, will not be consumed in their districts.

The last report of the Veterinary Surgeon, you appointed reads ;—" Having made my quarterly inspection of the dairy cattle in your district, I have pleasure in stating that I found the said cattle free from disease and the majority in very good condition."

Factory and Workshop Act

Under this Act seventy-nine premises were personally inspected during the year in order to ascertain their sanitary condition. Twelve defects of a minor nature were detected, and three written notices served.

Sanitation

Systematic monthly inspections of the town by your Sanitary officials have been accomplished, with the object of detecting any unwholesome and injurious influences,

prejudicial to the public health. Among these may be enumerated the deficient water closet accommodation for the residents of six cottages situated at Railway Terrace, which since has been remedied by the erection of one extra water closet. The defective sanitary conveniences at one of the Auction Marts and the absence of such offices at the other Auction Mart, which in one case is now adequately provided for and the other still in hand; choked and defective drains, defective pavements, insanitary closets, defective rain water pipes, and house spouting; also cisterns causing waste of water; renewal of water service pipes, etc., etc.,

Over-crowding

Two cases of over-crowding have occurred, one in a passage off the Main Street, and the other in Waterloo Street. These have been remedied by the first leaving the house and going into a larger, and the latter by boarding out two of their children, in consequence of the family not being able to obtain a suitable house for their means and requirements, in the town.

Housing of the Working Classes

The question of the Council purchasing some of the insanitary and old property in the town, and re-building suitable cottages for the working class, under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, requires careful thought. As there is a great want of good cottages suitable for working men with families at a reasonable rent in the town.

Six new houses have been erected and completed during the past twelve months.

Collection and Disposal of House Refuse

Regularly twice a week, a collection of domestic refuse, and once a week trade refuse, is effected by public scavenging, and conveyed to a refuse tip outside the town.

Whilst inspecting the bakehouses, it was noticed that liquid manure was percolating through one of the back-yard walls, and on further investigation it was discovered to arise from an accumulation of manure situated in a yard adjoining the Ship Inn, Market Place, which was lying in a corner improperly constructed for a manure-stead. Since which, a proper manure-stead with impervious bottom and sides and roofed in, has been constructed.

Sewerage

The system of sewers throughout the district generally, have been maintained during the year in a fairly satisfactory sanitary condition. Periodical flushings of the branch sewers have been carried out, as also have the road gullies.

At the out-fall works, the precipitation tanks were taking on the action of a septic tank ; but structural alterations are contemplated which will minimise this occurring in the future. The effluent is afterwards conveyed to irrigation areas on the land provided. The amount of acreage is amply sufficient.

Water Supply

The supply for both domestic and trade purposes, has been sufficient and is obtained from the Crummock gravitation main. It amounts approximately to 46·4 gallons per head per day, of the inhabitants. Complaints at times have been received from varying areas of the oxidation of iron service pipes and have always received attention.

Annexed to this report are the usual Statistical Tables.

TABLE A—BIRTHS.

PERIODS. 1908	COCKERMOUTH TOWNSHIP.							WORKHOUSE.						
	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Totals.			Legitimate		Illegitimate		Totals.		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	1908	1907	1906	Males	Females	Males	Females	1908	1907	1906
1st Quarter	14	20	..	2	36	30	37	...	..	...	2	2	2	2
2nd Quarter	12	15	1	2	30	23	37	...	..	...	4	4	2	5
3rd Quarter	14	12	2	1	29	25	39	...	...	1	..	1	1	5
4th Quarter	8	15	...	3	26	34	30	1	..	...	2	3	1	1
Entire Year	48	62	3	8	121	112	143	1	..	1	8	10	6	13

TABLE B—DEATHS.

PERIODS. 1908.	COCKERMOUTH TOWNSHIP.									WORKHOUSE							
	Males	Females	Totals	Death rate per 1000 Population						Males	Females						
				1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903			1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903
1st Quarter ..	17	14	31	23·09	26·8	18.6	19·3	17·1	15·48	10	5	15	20	11	5	7	4
2nd Quarter ..	11	3	14	10 4	14·8	12·6	13·4	17·8	18·62	10	5	15	8	13	6	4	1
3rd Quarter ..	6	8	14	10·3	7·4	11·1	14 9	11 9	7·46	7	2	9	4	12	14	6	1
4th Quarter ..	14	14	28	20·7	11·1	11 1	15·6	19 4	21 04	8	1	9	21	15	14	7	—
Entire Year ..	48	39	87	16·08	15	13 4	15 8	16·5	15.87	35	13	48	53	51	39	24	6

In order to obtain the correct death for the Town, the deaths of three non-residents must be subtracted from the total of 87 and the deaths of eight inhabitants of Cockermouth must be added seven (five males and two females) who died in Cockermouth Workhouse and one a female, who died in the Cottage Hospital, Maryport. The correct number of deaths is therefore 92.

TABLE III.—*Cockermouth Urban District.*

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year, 1908.

Notified Disease.	Cases notified in Whole District.						
		At Ages —Years.					
	At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.
Smallpox ...							
Cholera ..							
Diphtheria —	2		1			1	
Erysipelas —	2					1	1
Scarlet fever ...							
Typhus fever —							
Enteric fever —	4			3		1	
Relapsing fever ...							
Continued fever —							
Puerperal fever —	1				1		
Plague —							
Totals —	9		1	3	1	3	1

Isolation Hospital.—None.

TABLE IV.—*Cockermouth Urban District.*

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1908.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at subjoined Ages.							Deaths in Public Institutions
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Small-pox ...								
Measles ...								
Scarlet Fever ...								
Whooping-cough ..	5	3	2					
Diphtheria ..	1		1					
Croup ...								
Fever { Typhus ..								
Fever { Enteric ...								
Fever { Other continued ..								
Epidemic Influenza ..	1						1	
Cholera ...								
Plague ...								
Diarrhoea ..	1	1						
Enteritis ...	3	3						
Puerperal Fever ..	1				1			
Erysipelas ...								
Phthisis ...	6					6		5
Other tuberculous diseases	1		1					
Cancer, malignant disease	7					4	3	3
Bronchitis ...	7	2				1	4	5
Pneumonia ...	10	5				5		3
Pleurisy ..								
Other diseases of respiratory organs ...								1
Alcoholism } Cirrhosis of liver }								
Venereal diseases ...								1
Premature birth ..	1	1						
Diseases and accidents of parturition ...								
Heart disease ...	15			1		6	8	16
Accidents ..	1	1						1
Suicides ...	2					2		
All other causes ...	30	5	1		2	5	17	15
All causes ..	92	21	5	1	3	29	33	50

TABLE V. — *Cockermouth Urban District.*

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	Certified -	2	1	2	1	6	4		2	2	2	1		2		2		21
	Uncertified - -																	
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small-pox - -																	
	Chicken-pox - -																	
	Measles - -																	
	Scarlet Fever - -																	
	Diphtheria :—Croup -																	
	Whooping Cough -		1			1			1	1								3
Diarrhœal Diseases.	Diarrhœa, all forms -								1									1
	Enteritis (not Tuberculous - -									1	1							2
	Gastritis, Gastrointestinal Catarrh -				1	1												1
Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth -			1		1												1
	Congenital Defects -																	
	Injury at Birth -																	
	Want of Breast milk -																	
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus -	1		1		2								1				3
Tuberculous Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis :																	
	Tabes Mesenterica																	
	Other Tuberculous Diseases - -																	
Other Causes.	Erysipelas - -																	
	Syphilis - -																	
	Rickets - -																	
	Meningitis not Tubercl's																	
	Convulsions - -	1				1												1
	Bronchitis - -						2											2
	Laryngitis - -																	
	Pneumonia - -										1	1		1		2		5
	Suffocation, overlying						1											1
	Other Causes - -						1											1
		2	1	2	1	6	4		2	2	2	1		2		2		21

Births in the year—legitimate - 111 | Deaths in the year—legitimate infants 18
Do. illegitimate - 20 | Do. illegitimate infants 3

Deaths from all Causes at all ages - - 92

Population, estimated to middle of 1908 - 5410

TABLE I—*Cockermouth Urban District.*

Vital Statistics of whole district during 1908 and previous years.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the district				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in District	Deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	Nett deaths at all ages belonging to the District.	
				Under 1 yr. of age		At all Ages						
		Number	Rate*	Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number	Rate*				Number	Rate*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1898	5344	129	24·0	19	147 2	95	17 8					
1899	5348	135	25 2	17	125·9	84	15 7					
1900	5352	118	22 0	13	110·1	74	13·8					
1901	5355	137	25·0	15	109·4	88	16·4					
1902	5355	131	24 4	16	122·1	79	14,7					
1903	5355	119	22 2	14	117·6	85	15·8					
1904	5365	118	21 9	16	194 9	89	16·5					
1905	5365	105	19·5	15	142·2	85	15·8					
1906	5365	143	26·6	17	118 8	72	13 4					
1907	5370	118	21·9	11	93·2	134	29 9	59	50	2	86	16·0
Averages for years 1903-07	5357	125	23·2	15	128	88	16·9					
1908	5410	121	24 2	21	160	135	24 94	50	44	1	92	17 0

* Rates in columns 4, 8 and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this table.

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.
Cockermouth Union Workhouse	Maryport Cottage Hospital
Nursing Home	
Industrial School for the County	

Is the Union Workhouse within the District?—Yes.

Total population at all ages	5355	At Census of 1901
Number of inhabited houses	1154	
Average number of persons per house	4.1	

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) - 2,389·144.

Urban District of Cockermouth.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1908, on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act. 1901, in connection with

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework

1. INSPECTIONS.

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections,	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories	7	Nil	Nil
Workshops	91		
Total ..	98	—	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects		Number of Prosecutions
	Found.	Remedied.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—			Nil
Want of cleanliness ...	8	0	
Want of ventilation ...	1	1	
Other nuisances ..	2	1	
Sanitary Accommodation—not separate for sexes	1	0	
Total	12	2	—

3. HOME WORK.

NIL.

4. REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.	Number.
Bakehouses	7
Dressmakers and Milliners	14
Printers	4
Bootmakers and Cloggers	12
Stonemason	1
Smiths and Fitters	6
Joiners	4
Coach Builders	1
Saddlers	1
Cabinet Makers	1
Tallowchandlers	2
Tanners	3
Plumbers and Painters	3
Mineral Water Manufactories	1
Tailors	17
Brewery	1
Woollen Mill	1
Total ...	79

The number of factories and workshops on the Register and which have been inspected during the year was 79, also 19 were inspected, which at the end of the year had not been registered.

JOHN PENNY, D.Sc., M.B.

2nd January, 1909. Medical Officer of Health.

NOTE.—The Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 (s. 132), requires the Medical Officer of Health in his Annual Report to the District Council to report specifically on the administration of that Act in workshops aud workplaces, and to send a copy of his Annual Report, or so much of it as deals with this subject, to the Secretary of State (Home Office). If the Annual Report if presented otherwise than in print, it is unnecessary to include in the copy sent to the Home Office the portions which do not relate to factories, workshops, workplaces, or home work. The duties of Local Authorities and the Medical Officer of Health under the Act of 1901 are detailed in the Home Office Memorandum of December, 1904. A further Memorandum, on the Home Work Provisions of the Faetory Act, was issued to all District Councils and Medical Officers of Health in October, 1906.

January, 1909.

JOHN PENNY, D Sc., M.B., F.R.S.E.

Medical Officer of Health.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report for year ending, 31st December, 1908, showing Sanitary Inspections made, with summary of Nuisances abated and Sanitary Improvements effected as the result of such inspections, within the Urban District.

Nuisances Reported to Council	181
Do. Notices complied with	177

Details of Sanitary Improvement Work carried out during the year:

Defective Drains repaired, cleansed, etc.	60
Dirty and defective W.C. pans replaced by new ones	8
Defective Flushing Apparatuses repaired ...	25
Rain Water Pipes disconnected from drains ...	2
Defective Rain Water Pipes and Eaves Gutters repaired	16
New Water Closets fixed to Existing Premises ...	2
No. of Stable Manure Pits repaired or reconstructed	1
„ Stable paving repaired	3
„ Yard paving repaired	1
„ Accumulations of Refuse and Manure removed	8
Defective House Roofs repaired	3
„ Floor Paving repaired	19
„ Yard and Sink Waste Gullies repaired or renewed	17
Miscellaneous Nuisances abated..	54

There has been two cases of Overcrowding during the yeas, one was abated by the family obtaining a large house. The second case which is only of recent date is still in hand. A regular, twice weekly collection, of domestic refuse is maintained throughout the town, and once weekly collection of trade refuse. All the Sewers have been periodically flushed and kept clean

As directed by you the Infants Department of the Council's Schools were fumigated and disinfected with formalin after the outbreak of Whooping Cough. All other premises as directed by you were properly disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease, as were also the premises where persons had resided suffering from Tuberculosis.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The number of Factories and Workshops on the Register and which have been inspected during the year are	79
Inspected but not yet registered	19
Defects found in above	12
Remedied	3

SUMMARY OF REGISTERED PREMISES.

Bakehouses	7
Dressmakers and Milliners .. — ..	14
Printers	4
Bootmakers and Cloggers	12
Stonemason	1
Smiths and Fitters	6
Joiners	4
Coach Builders	1
Saddlers	1
Cabinet Makers...	1
Tallow Chandlers	2
Tanners	3
Plumbers and Painters	3
Mineral Water Manufactories	1
Tailors	17
Brewery	1
Woollen Mill	1
	79

The Cowsheds and Slaughter Houses of the town have been frequently visited during the year, and with the exception of one, were found to be kept in a satisfactory condition; the one referred to in consequence of the premises being kept under regular supervision has much improved in the general cleanliness, and in the removal of offensive accumulations.

THOMAS B. SIMMONS,
M. Assoc. M.C.E., M.R.San.I.
Inspector of Nuisances.